

## **REMARKS**

### **Summary**

The Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 22, 2007. In this response, Claims 1-8, 10-11 are currently pending in the application, no claims are amended and no claims are added. Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested.

### **Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102**

In the Office Action, Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 10 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) over US Patent No. 6,950,787 (Hashima).

The Office Action cited Figure 11 of Hashima for disclosing the “contact region” and “non-contact region”. While Figure 11 shows a pair of conveyor rollers that are in contact with each other, it is unclear which conveyor rollers correspond to conveyor roller 301 or 302 of Figure 16A and 16B. Even if the first set of conveyor rollers is 301, Hashima still fails to teach “defining a contact region of the conveyor rollers where the pair of conveyor rollers contact each other and a non-contact region of the conveyor rollers where the pair of conveyor rollers do not contact with each other”. In fact, Figure 11 of Hashima merely illustrates the conveying path of the flexible medium.

The Office Action further states that Hashima discloses, *inter alia*, “...setting a first peripheral speed and a second peripheral speed for the contact region and the non-contact region, respectively...”. The Office Action cited Column 22, lines 32-41 of Hashima for teaching the above-noted element. However, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s assertion. Figure 16A and 16B of Hashima is seen to teach the amount of travel time required by roller 302 until the flexible medium 100 is released from roller 302. While Hashima may teach the difference in speed of conveyor rollers 301 and 302, conveying rollers 301 and 302 are not in contact with each other. In this regard, Hashima merely teaches a timing at which a change arises in positional relationship between a flexible medium and a roller. In contrast, Claim 1 discloses a “... contact region of the conveyor rollers where the pair of conveyor rollers contact each

other...". As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Hashima is not seen to teach "a first peripheral speed and a second peripheral speed for the contact region and the non-contact region, respectively".

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Hashima is not seen to anticipate the present invention recited in independent Claim 1. Independent Claim 1 is therefore believed to be in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection and indicate Claim 1 as allowable at the Examiner's earliest convenience. In addition, Claims 5 and 10 contain substantially similar features as that of independent Claim 1, and were rejected based on the same reasons. Therefore, Claims 5 and 10 are also believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to independent Claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections and indicate Claim 5 and 10 as allowable at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The other pending claims remaining under consideration in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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**CONCLUSION**

Please charge the extension of time fee to Deposit Account 502456. If any additional fee is required or any credit is due, please charge or credit Deposit Account Number 502456.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner may contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

12/12/07

Date

/Trevor Chuang/

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